IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Dunbar et al. Confirmation No.: 1189

Appln. No. : 10/761,036

Filed : January 20, 2004 Art Unit : 3733

Title : Spinal Rod Approximator Examiner : Hoffman, Mary

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of February 23, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 13 of this paper.